

WASHINGTON NEWS

The correspondent for the Louisville, Courier-Journal says: Republican members of congress who sent an emissary to Roosevelt to learn his presidential intentions, are said to have received a report that the colonel believes a condition may arise which will result in a practically unanimous call, which he can not ignore.

It is said that Huntington Wilson, now assistant secretary of state will succeed Robert Bacon as ambassador to France.

Postmaster General Hitchcock has recommended the government ownership of the telegraph lines as part of the postal service.

The fourth assistant postmaster general makes a plea for the establishment of parcels post delivery in his annual report to the postmaster general.

A dispatch to the Louisville Courier-Journal says: Following a conference between President Taft and Postmaster General Hitchcock over the latter's recommendation that the government take over control of the telegraph lines, a statement was issued from the White house declaring the administration is not yet prepared to stand sponsor for the measure.

A United States supreme court has sustained the employers' liability law enacted by congress in 1908 and attacked through the courts in various parts of the country.

The United States senate in executive session, after a lively debate, decided by a vote of 58 to 8 to consider the arbitration treaties with Great Britain and France in public sessions.

Senator Lorimer, before the senate committee investigating his election to the senate, gave a detailed history of his life, which he stated began as a bootblack in Chicago.

The committee on rules of the national house began consideration of the proposed investigation into the so-called money, shipping and harvester trusts.

The late Associate Justice John Marshall Harlan, of the supreme court of the United States, left an estate of \$14,000, of which \$7,200 was in life insurance.

Representative Rouse of Kentucky will insist in congress upon better working conditions for railway mail clerks.

The correspondent for the Louisville Courier-Journal says: A poll of the United States senate made by a senator who is supporting the general arbitration treaties was reported as follows: For treaties unamended or amended in some acceptable way, sixty; fourteen against; one still open to slight doubt; the remainder doubtful.

The state department at Washington has served notice on President Gomez that the United States will intervene in Cuba if further attempts are made by the veteran organization to nullify the law prohibiting interference of the military in political affairs in Cuba.

Representative Sherley will en-

deavor to have the equivalent of a year's salary for the late Justice Harlan appropriated by congress to Mrs. Harlan.

A special dispatch to the Louisville Courier-Journal says: Secretary of the Navy Meyer is called upon in a resolution favorably reported by the house naval committee to report in full regarding expenditures for steel plates, armor, machinery or other forms of steel used in the manufacture of war vessels during the present fiscal year. The resolution is a modified form of one introduced recently by Representative A. O. Stanley, chairman of the special steel investigating committee. Its purpose is to discover whether the navy department has complied with a provision of the last naval appropriation bill, placed therein nearly a year ago on motion of Stanley, that no steel shall be used on war vessels if bought from corporations which have combined in restraint of trade.

In the original resolution the Kentuckian asked specifically whether any steel has been purchased from the United States Steel corporation. This reference, the committee eliminated on the ground that it has not been determined whether that corporation is a combination in restraint of trade. The secretary is, therefore, to be requested to give a full account of the purchase of steel from whatever source.

The action was taken by the naval committee after Mr. Stanley had appeared before it earlier in the day and urged a favorable report on his resolution. Later he expressed himself as entirely satisfied with the resolution which it was decided to report. He said it was the information he was after, and he would not quibble about the form of the request.

Senator Rayner of Maryland delivered a strong speech in the senate in favor of the peace treaties. Senator Rayner contended that after the proposed joint high commission had determined to submit a controversy to arbitration it would be perfectly useless to give the senate the right to reverse the commission's action. He declared to the senate that the treaties would become a mockery and a farce if such a resolution, permitting arbitrators to decide a case and then giving the defendant the right to reverse it if the award did not suit, were written into the ratifications as proposed by Senator Lodge.

"What is the use," he asked, "of having the high commission, of paying the enormous expense and of investing it with the power that it has, if its judgment is not going to amount to anything whatever on the face of the earth, and if the senate shall have the right to set it aside whenever it suits them? To me, the whole complicated system of the treaty is absurd if you propose to tack a proposition of this sort to it."

"If the state department has changed its mind—and it appears that it has—then let us rewrite the treaty and be frank with each other and strike out the clause in the treaty which gives the commission the right to determine whether it shall send a controversy to arbitration. I am for the treaties as they stand. I am perfectly willing to abide by the decision of the joint high commission. But I am not willing to enact a comedy like this which places the whole power in the

hands of the senate, and then leaves the foreign countries to understand that the power vested in the commission is a genuine one and that we intend to abide by it.

"I have no objection to the resolution of Senator Root in the formal ratifications. That is the way the treaty ought to be passed, and ought to be adopted so as to make it perfectly plain that we would not arbitrate questions like the Monroe doctrine, state indebtedness and immigration."

Senator Rayner added that the treaties did not mean an alliance with Great Britain or any other country.

"If they did," he said, "I would rather see the treaties torn into shreds than accepted. The day will come when Germany will enter into the compact, and when that occurs, and the United States and Great Britain and Germany and France sign and seal the covenant, the era of universal peace will dawn upon the world."

"Then the earth will no longer rock beneath the tread of battling legions and naval armaments will no longer patrol the waters of the world in search for the possessions of unconquered races, and then, under God's guidance, the dove of peace will build its nest within the cannon's mouth."

The house judiciary committee has favorably reported the Henry resolution changing the date of the presidential inauguration from March 4 to the last Thursday in April and the terms of representatives in congress to begin the second Tuesday in January instead of on March 4. These changes would be effective April, 1917, and January, 1918, respectively.

The Henry resolution would provide for extension of the term of the president and vice president elected in 1912 to the last Thursday of April, 1917.

Congress would convene annually on the second Tuesday in January. This would leave the biennial elections in November except in Oregon, in June, and in Maine and Vermont, in September.

CALL FOR DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION

The official call for the democratic national convention to be held at Baltimore on June 25 was issued by Norman E. Mack, chairman, and Urey Woodson, secretary of the democratic national committee. The basis of representation and the method of naming delegates is outlined as follows:

"Delegates and alternates from each state of the union shall be chosen to the number of two delegates for every senator and two delegates for every representative from the states respectively in the congress of the United States under the congressional reapportionment of the district based upon the census of 1910. The District of Columbia, Alaska, the Philippines, Hawaii and Porto Rico are each allowed six delegates."

"In the choice of delegates and alternates, the democratic state or territorial committee may, if not otherwise decided provide for the direct election of such delegates or alternates if, in the opinion of the respective committees, it is deemed desirable and possible to do so with proper and sufficient safeguards. Where such provision is not made and where the laws do not provide specifically the manner of such choice, then the delegates and alternates to said national convention shall be chosen in the manner that governed the choice of delegates to the last democratic national convention."

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